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1. The reply filed on 7/8/2011 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s): the independent claims 1 and 26 filed 7/8/2011 still include limitations that are specific, in the alternative, to the non-elected Subspecies, such as First region, Subspecies 2 (the first region comprising metallic balls) and the non-elected Second region, Subspecies 2, (the second region comprising a ceramic powder). This is improper and defeats the purpose of the restriction which is to reduce the search and examination burden on the examiner. As independent claims 1 and 26 now appear, the examiner would be required to search for both the elected and the non-elected subspecies. In short, the limitations, metallic balls and ceramic powder, drawn to the non-elected subspecies, should be removed from the independent claims. See 37 CFR 1.111. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be *bona fide*, applicant is given **ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS** from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JAMES BERGIN whose telephone number is (571)272-6872. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Wednesday and Friday, 8.30 - 5.30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Carone can be reached on 571-272-6873. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/James S. Bergin/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3641